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Debaters Pass Talk Tournament

Winners of a superior award, El Camino College students Wes Nathansen and Neal Jardine comprised one of four teams to go through the practice debate on the local campus last week with-

out defeat. The tournament, which attracted 102 teams, was headed by team captain Bert Dumais as "the best novice showing we've ever had."

ECC squads which won were George Baena and John Grey and Harry Demetre and John Rinker, both with excellent. Jack Lane and Walt Becker won two and lost two. The women's teams split their matches, winning two and losing two. Gail Smith and Viny Villareal, Beverly Smith and Teddy Wallace made up the women's team.

Science Movie at County Museum

"The Restless Sphere," only interpretive presentation of the International Geophysical Year's aims, problems, and achievements, will be presented at the Los Angeles County Museum at 8 p.m. Nov. 18.

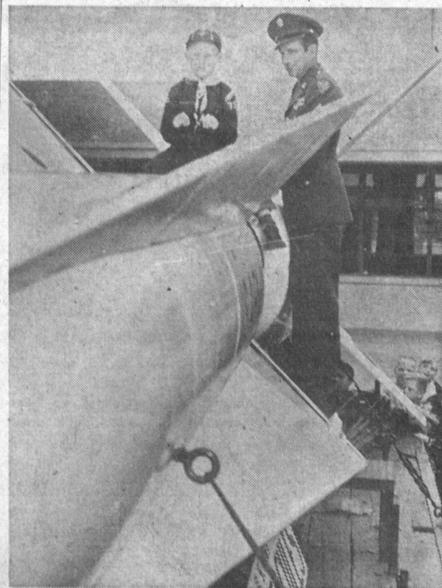
Narrated by the Duke of Edinburgh, husband of Queen Elizabeth II, this documentary presents top IGY experts who explain clearly and accurately their countries' research on the earth's interior, surface, and atmosphere.

Powder Puff Bid for Torrance Asked by C of C

Torrance Chamber of Commerce will make a formal bid to have the "Powder Puff Derby" start here in 1960.

Recommendation to have the women's cross-country air race start from Torrance Municipal Airport, was made by J. D. Thomas, chairman of the aviation committee.

He said the committee is also considering asking that the 1961 race terminate in Torrance.



RID7 'EM, CUB SCOUTS—Students at Casimir School Monday got a close-up view of the Army's Nike Hercules missile, as Army personnel brought the missile to school for showing and lectures. Here, Rodney Windhorst tries riding the 30-foot missile, as Sgt. Earl W. Lambert makes sure that he doesn't fall out of the saddle. Students learned about the missile at a special assembly.



SOLE RESIDENTS—Enjoying their "home made" home, Chief and Mrs. Walter Lonsdale compare domestic notes in the living room of the house built by El Camino College carpentry students. El Camino's unofficial trademark, the palm trees, may be seen through the living room window. Story page 32.

Health Officer Cites Peril of Castor Bean Poisoning

Roy O. Gilbert, M.D., Los Angeles County Health Officer

One of the most common poisonous plants in Los Angeles County, readily accessible to both children and animals, is the castor bean. Every year cases of castor bean poisoning in children are reported and fatalities have occurred in both children and domestic animals.

The castor bean plant is probably native to North Africa and was first grown in the northern United States as an ornamental shrub. In this particular area it grows to a height of about 8 feet, but in warmer climates where the plant is cultivated for the seed from which castor oil is obtained, it reaches the height and proportion of a small tree.

Easy to Spot
The plant is not difficult to identify. It has large, irregularly shaped leaves and rough prickly pods each of which contains 3 individual beans. All parts of the plant, but particularly the beans,

are poisonous. Just before the pods dry out they turn red, and small children then find them additionally attractive to investigate.

Ingestion of only one castor bean has caused fatal poisoning when the bean was thoroughly chewed. If the bean is swallowed whole, which it is likely to do, it is only about half an inch long, poisoning is unlikely because the hard seed coat prevents rapid absorption.

Symptoms
Symptoms of acute poisoning, which generally appear in from 1 to 3 days after ingestion of any part of the plant, include nausea and vomiting, diarrhea, thirst, drowsiness, disorientation, and dullness of vision. However, if a number of the beans are eaten at any one time, general weakness and collapse may result almost immediately.

The toxic action of the castor bean is due to a substance called ricin which affects the cells of the body, particularly the red cells, causing internal hemorrhages of the gastrointestinal tract and degeneration of the kidneys. The fatality rate is approximately five per cent.

There is no known antidote for castor bean poisoning. Medical attention, in these cases, should be obtained as quickly as possible. Treatment consists chiefly of washing out the stomach or inducing vomiting and administering a cathartic. Blood transfusions may be necessary.

Need Education
Although certain towns in California have passed ordinances to control the growth of certain poisonous plants, including oleander and the castor bean, the problem of the control of this type of poisoning is primarily one of education rather than destruction of the plant. Because of the numerous plants that are found everywhere where plant life can be supported, their wholesale destruction appears impractical or well-nigh impossible.

Since such plants are unlikely to be eliminated, children must be taught to avoid them. When to young to be accountable for their actions, it is the duty of the adults who care for them to see that poisonous plants, and anything else of a hazardous nature, are well out of reach.

Fall days mean fewer daylight hours, says the Automobile Club of Southern California, and that means trickier driving conditions during the late afternoon and early evening. The time when afternoon sun fades into evening is a dangerous period for motorists. Visibility is not as good as it sometimes seems and the low sun creates a glare problem. Be extra alert during twilight hours.

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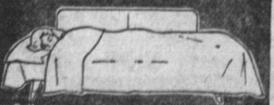
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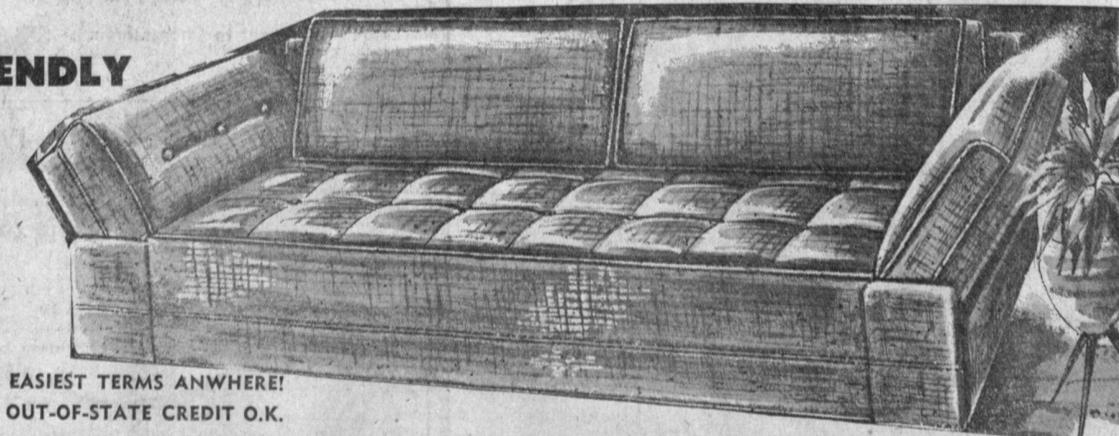
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